



April 2010

Livingston FSA Office News

Livingston County USDA Service Center

Livingston County FSA

1100 Morton Parkway
Chillicothe, MO 64601
660 646 6220 (phone)
660 646 4894 (fax)

Hours

Monday - Friday
7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
The office will be closed
on all Federal holidays.

County Committee

David Williams
Mary Smith
Ben Beetsma

County Committee meets
the third Thursday each
month at 8:30 a.m.

Staff

Program Technicians
Dianna Sewell
Anissa Johnson
Jeannette Straker
Diana Briscoe

County Executive Director
David Meneely

Farm Loan Manager
John McKinny

Farm Loan Officer
Gary Elrod

DCP Signup Deadline Nears

Enrollment for the 2010 Direct and Countercyclical Program (DCP) will continue through **June 1, 2010. Late-filed applications will not be accepted.**

Livingston County DCP statistics:

- *1260—Total DCP eligible farms in Livingston County.*
- *145—Farms that have started the DCP signup but still waiting on some producer signatures. Last year about 50 farms got this far but never finished the paperwork to get program payments.*
- *6—Farms waiting on approval but all paperwork is complete.*
- *376—Farms with DCP contracts approved. All they have to do now is make an acreage report after planting is completed.*
- *733—Farms not yet started on the DCP signup process. Participation is voluntary but this represents 58% of eligible farms unsigned with only 6 weeks to signup deadline.*

USDA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2010, eligible producers may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment. USDA will issue advance direct payments within a few days after contracts are approved.

Countercyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices. Countercyclical payments are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is below its target price. The effective price is the higher of the national average market price received during the 12-month

marketing year for each covered commodity and the national average loan rate for a marketing assistance loan for the covered commodity.

ACRE

The Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE) provides a safety net based on state revenue losses and acts in place of the price-based safety net of counter-cyclical payments under DCP.

A farm's payment is based on a revenue guarantee calculated using a 5-year average state yield and the most recent 2-year national price for each eligible commodity. For 2010, the 2-year price average will be based on the 2008 and 2009 crop years.

An ACRE payment is issued when both the state and the farm have incurred a revenue loss. The payment is based on 83.3 percent (85) percent in 2012) of the farm's planted acres times the difference between the State ACRE guarantee and the state revenue times the ratio of the farm's yield divided by the state expected yield. The total number of planted acres for which a producer may receive ACRE payments may not exceed the total base on the farm.

In exchange for participating in ACRE, in addition to not receiving counter-cyclical payments, a farm's direct payment is reduced by 20 percent, and marketing assistance loan rates are reduced by 30 percent.

The decision to enroll in the ACRE Program is irrevocable. The owner of the farm and all producers on the farm must agree to enroll in ACRE. Once enrolled, the farm shall be enrolled for that initial crop year and will remain in ACRE through the 2012 crop year.





Report Failed Wheat Acreage

Producers with a failed wheat crop need to report the failed acreage prior to disposing the crop, or preparing the ground for spring planting of a subsequent crop.

It is very important that producers let us know about any wheat that was planted timely, with the intention to harvest, but due to weather conditions, the crop failed. Documentation of these failed acres ensures compliance with current farm programs and provides history and possible eligibility for future disaster programs.

Form CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Failed acreage not covered by crop insurance should be reported to FSA before disposing the failed crop and replanting. Producers with crop insurance may report failed acreage by the June 30th crop reporting deadline by providing crop insurance documentation such as a loss claim to their local FSA office. Producers with crop insurance should also contact their local agent when losses occur and before destroying the crop.

Producers may contact the County FSA office at for questions about reporting failed acreage or visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

SURE

Currently applications for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) are being taken for the 2008 crop year. SURE provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disaster that were incurred starting in crop year 2008 through September 30, 2011. To be eligible for SURE payments, a producer is required to obtain crop insurance on all crops of economic significance in all counties or, if crop insurance is not available, to participate in the Non-Insured Assistance Program

(NAP), except for grazed acreage.

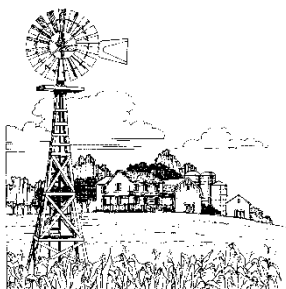
Eligible farmers and ranchers who meet the definition of Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher are exempt from the risk management purchase requirement.

The following are the conditions that trigger SURE payments:

- at least one crop of economic significance must suffer a 10% production loss due to an eligible disaster condition,
- the crop of economic significance must be a crop that has contributed or would have contributed at least 5% or more of the total expected revenue from all crops on the farm,
- the farm experiencing the loss must be in a county declared a disaster county by the Secretary of Agriculture, or in contiguous counties. Those who show proof of an individual loss of at least 50% are also eligible to receive SURE payments for production losses or crop quality losses.

Losses are measured with consideration to the whole-farm revenue, which includes crop insurance indemnities and commodity program payments, so that producers are not paid more than once for the same loss.

A SURE calculator is available at: http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/sure_calculator_2008.xls. The calculator is not official, but is intended for educational use. A fact sheet and Q & A are also available online at www.fsa.usda.gov.





Acreage Reporting

Acreage reporting time will soon be here. Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs. Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date. Acreage reports are required for many Farm Service Agency programs. For crops other than NAP (Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program) crops, acreage reports are to be certified by the June 30th deadline on small grains and a July 31st deadline on all other crops. Acreage reports on crops for which NAP assistance may be paid are due in the county office by the earlier of June 30 for small grains and July 31 for all other crops, or 15 calendar days before the onset of harvest or grazing of the specific crop acreage being reported.

Beginning Farmer Loans

FSA has a program to assist beginning farmers and or members of socially disadvantaged groups to finance agricultural enterprises. Under these designated farm loan programs, FSA can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person who:

- has operated a farm for not more than 10 years
- will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- does not own a farm in excess of 30 percent of the county's median size.

Each member of an entity must meet the eligibility requirements. Loan approval is not guaranteed.

Additional program information, loan

applications, and other materials are available at your local USDA Service Center. You may also visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

Direct and Guaranteed Loans

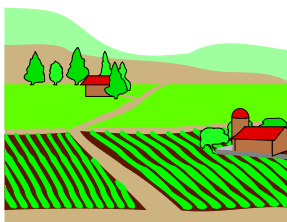
The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. If you are having trouble getting the credit you need for your farm, or regularly borrow from FSA, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available. Ask your lender about an FSA loan guarantee if you've had a setback and your lender is reluctant to extend or renew your loan. Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$1,112,000. Producers are encouraged to apply early so that a loan can be processed and funded in a timely manner. FSA employees will help you complete the necessary application and other forms, and help you understand what information is required, where to find it or who to contact to get it. To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact the county office staff.

Rural Youth Loans

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

- be a citizen of the United





States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien

- be 10 years to 20 years of age
- comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
- reside in a rural area, city or town with a population of 50,000 or fewer people
- be unable to get a loan from other sources
- conduct a modest income-producing agriculture-related project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
- demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a

project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the project and the loan, along with providing adequate supervision.

Dates to Remember	
May 31	Memorial Day Holiday FSA Offices are closed.
June 1	Final DCP Enrollment Date
June 30	Final acreage reporting date for wheat and oats.
Continues	Facility Loan Program
Continues	CRP Continuous Signup

Visit our website at: www.fsa.usda.gov/mo

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.